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# Forest Service NEWS



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## FOREST SERVICE RESUMES AWARD OF TIMBER SALES

Award of Forest Service timber sale contracts in the Pacific Northwest Region resumes today, according to Regional Director of Timber Management, Wendell L. Jones. Awards were halted temporarily by Forest Service Chief R. Max Peterson on September 10 to meet requirements of the Federal Timber Contract Payment Modification act of 1984.

"This decision to resume award of sales comes as a result of last minute activity by timber purchasers to submit applications for timber contract relief, bringing the total volume now under contract below the 12.3 billion board foot cap set by law," Jones said.

Most purchasers were given until September 25 to submit applications for contract relief. As of that date, 145 applications totaling 5.8 billion board feet have been applied for, bringing the total volume under contract below 12 billion board feet.

In a separate action by the Federal District Court of Oregon, purchasers involved in a class action suit with Northside Timber Company were given until September 27 to file. Of the 145 applications received, 72 are associated with this class action and represent volume totaling 3.9 billion board feet of the volume applied for.

All applications must be reviewed and approved by the Regional Forester and all purchasers whose applications are approved will be billed on October 25, 1985.

"I am hopeful that this process will provide the desired relief to those companies affected," Jones added. "We can now reactivate our sales program and put more timber on the market at current prices."

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